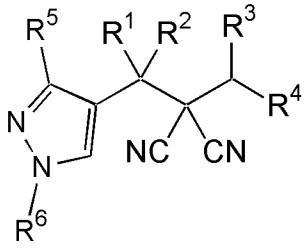
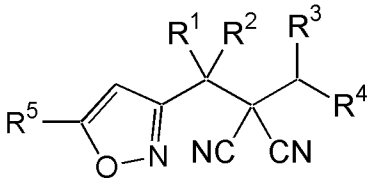
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-3. (Cancelled)

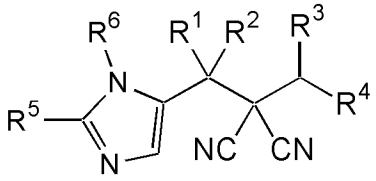
4. (Currently amended) ~~The~~A malononitrile compound ~~according to claim 1,~~ which is represented by any one of the formula (II-i) to (II-xiii):



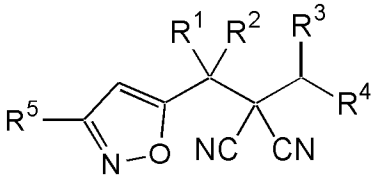
(II-i)



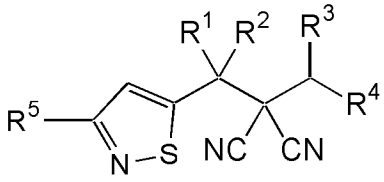
(II-ii)



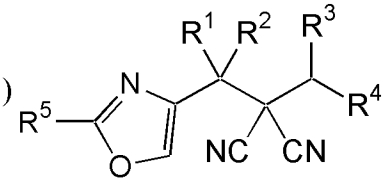
(II-iii)



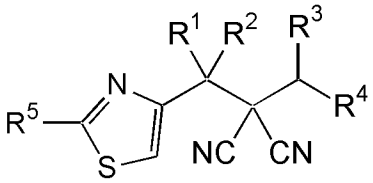
(II-iv)



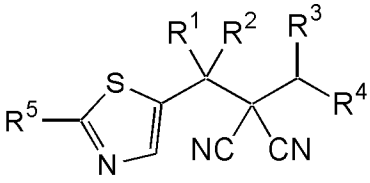
(II-v)



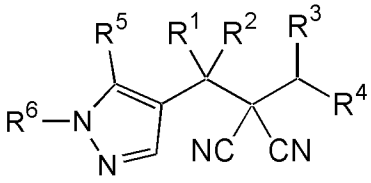
(II-vi)



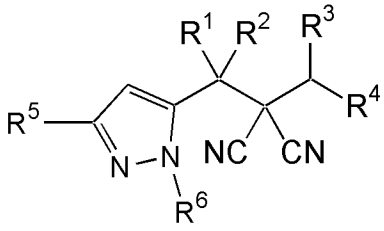
(II-vii)



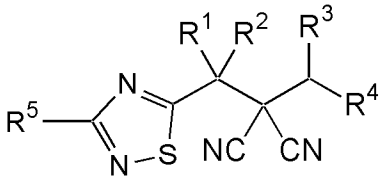
(II-viii)



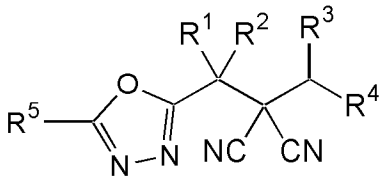
(II-ix)



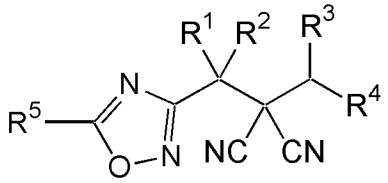
(II-x)



(II-xi)



(II-xii)



(II-xiii)

wherein R^1 represents C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

R^2 represents C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkoxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, cyano or hydrogen,

R^3 and R^4 each represent C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C4-C5 cycloalkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

or R^3 and R^4 are taken together to represent C2-C6 alkanediyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen or C4-C6 alkenediyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen,

R^5 represents halogen, cyano, nitro, formyl, SF_5, C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen or one or more C1-C3 alkyl, C1-C5 alkoxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkenyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkynyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylthio optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkenylthio optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkynylthio optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfinyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C6 alkylcarbonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, a group represented by $C(OR^{19})R^{20}R^{21}$, or hydrogen,

R^6 represents C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen,

R^{19} represents C1-C5 alkyl ~~optionanlly~~ optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkynyl ~~optionanlly~~ optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen, and

R^{20} and R^{21} each represent C1-C5 alkyl ~~optionanlly~~ optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen.

5. (Currently amended) The malononitrile compound according to claim 4, wherein R^1 is hydrogen,

R^2 is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

R^3 and R^4 each are C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

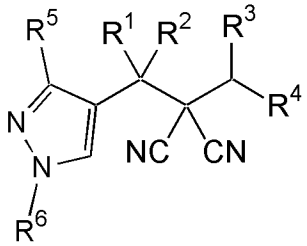
R^5 is halogen, C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkoxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkenyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkynyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylthio optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfinyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, a group represented by $C(OR^{19})R^{20}R^{21}$, or ~~haydrogen~~ hydrogen,

R^6 is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen,

R^{19} represents C1-C5 alkyl ~~optionanlly~~ optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkynyl ~~optionanlly~~ optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen, and

R^{20} and R^{21} each represent C1-C5 alkyl ~~optionanlly~~ optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen.

6. (Currently amended) The malononitrile compound according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 4, which is represented by the formula (II-i):



(II-i)

wherein R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^6 are as defined in claim 4. ~~represents C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,~~

~~R^2 represents C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkoxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, cyano or hydrogen,~~

~~R^3 and R^4 each represent C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C4-C5 cycloalkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,~~

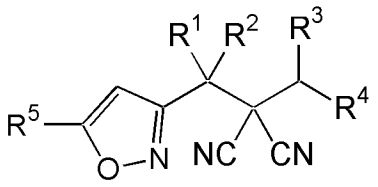
~~or R^3 and R^4 are taken together to represent C2-C6 alkanediyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen or C4-C6 alkenediyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen,~~

~~R^5 represents halogen, cyano, nitro, formyl, SF_5, C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkynyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen or one or more C1-C3 alkyl, C1-C5 alkoxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkenyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkynyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylthio optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkenylthio optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkynylthio optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfinyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C6 alkylcarbonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen a group represented by $C(OR^{19})R^{20}R^{21}$, or hydrogen,R^6 represents C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen,~~

~~R^{19} represents C1-C5 alkyl optionanlly substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkynyl optionanlly substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen, and~~

~~R^{20} and R^{21} each represent C1-C5 alkyl optionanlly substituted with one or more halogen,or hydrogen.~~

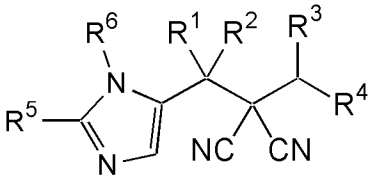
7. (Currently amended) The~~A~~ malononitrile compound according to claim 4, which is represented by the formula (II-ii):



(II-ii)

wherein R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4 and R^5 are as defined in ~~claim 6~~ claim 4.

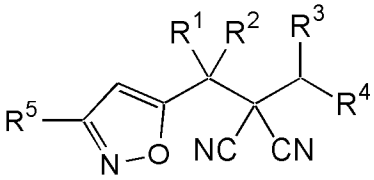
8. **(Currently amended)** The~~A~~ malononitrile compound according to claim 4, which is represented by the formula (II-iii):



(II-iii)

wherein R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^6 are as defined in ~~claim 6~~claim 4.

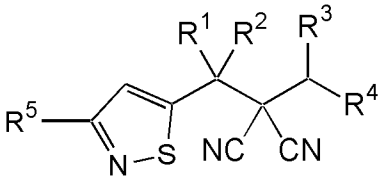
9. (Currently amended) The~~A~~ malononitrile compound according to claim 4, which is represented by the formula (II-iv):



(II-iv)

wherein R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4 and R^5 are as defined in ~~claim 6~~claim 4.

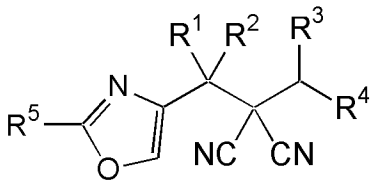
10. (Currently amended) The~~A~~ malononitrile compound according to claim 4, which is represented by the formula (II-v):



(II-v)

wherein R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4 and R^5 are as defined in ~~claim 6~~claim 4.

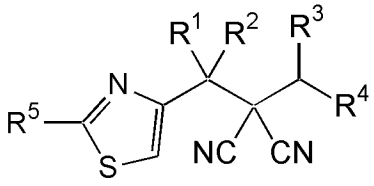
11. (Currently amended) The~~A~~ malononitrile compound according to claim 4, which is represented by the formula (II-vi):



(II-vi)

wherein R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4 and R^5 are as defined in ~~claim 6~~ claim 4.

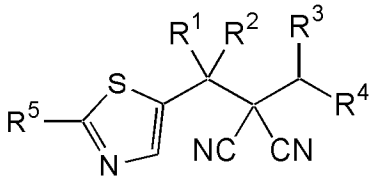
12. (Currently amended) The~~A~~ malononitrile compound according to claim 4, which is represented by the formula (II-vii):



(II-vii)

wherein R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4 and R^5 are as defined in ~~claim 6~~ claim 4.

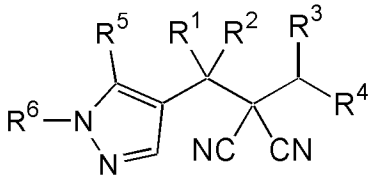
13. (Currently amended) The~~A~~ malononitrile compound according to claim 4, which is represented by the formula (II-viii):



(II-viii)

wherein R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4 and R^5 are as defined in ~~claim 6~~ claim 4.

14. (Currently amended) The~~A~~ malononitrile compound according to claim 4, which is represented by the formula (II-ix):



(II-ix)

wherein R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^6 are as defined in ~~claim 6~~ claim 4.

15. (Currently amended) The malononitrile compound according to claim 6, wherein R^1 is hydrogen,

R^2 is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

R^3 and R^4 each are C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

R^5 is halogen, C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkoxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkenyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkynyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylthio optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfinyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, a group represented by $C(OR^{19})R^{20}R^{21}$, or hydrogen,

R^6 is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen,

R^{19} represents C1-C5 alkyl ~~optionanlly~~ optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkynyl ~~optionanlly~~ optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen, and

R^{20} and R^{21} each represent C1-C5 alkyl ~~optionanlly~~ optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen.

16. (Currently amended) A pesticidal composition, which comprises an effective amount of the malononitrile compound according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 4 and an inert carrier.

17. (Currently amended) A method for controlling ~~a~~ an arthropod pest, which comprises applying an effective amount of the malononitrile compound according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 4 to said arthropod pest or a place where said arthropod pest inhabits.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently amended) The malononitrile compound according to claim 7, wherein R^1 is hydrogen,

R^2 is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

R^3 and R^4 each are C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

R^5 is halogen, C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkoxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkenyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkynyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylthio optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfinyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, a group represented by $C(OR^{19})R^{20}R^{21}$, or hydrogen,

~~R^6 is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen,~~

R^{19} represents C1-C5 alkyl ~~optionanlly~~ optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkynyl ~~optionanlly~~ optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen, and

R^{20} and R^{21} each represent C1-C5 alkyl ~~optionanlly~~ optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen.

20. (Currently amended) The malononitrile compound according to claim 8, wherein R^1 is hydrogen,

R^2 is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

R^3 and R^4 each are C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

R^5 is halogen, C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkoxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkenyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkynyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylthio optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfinyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, a group represented by $C(OR^{19})R^{20}R^{21}$, or hydrogen,

R^6 is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen,

R^{19} represents C1-C5 alkyl ~~optionanlly~~ optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkynyl ~~optionanlly~~ optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen, and

R^{20} and R^{21} each represent C1-C5 alkyl ~~optionanlly~~ optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen.

21. (Currently amended) The malononitrile compound according to claim 9, wherein R^1 is hydrogen,

R^2 is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

R^3 and R^4 each are C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

R^5 is halogen, C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkoxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkenyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkynyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylthio optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfinyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, a group represented by $C(OR^{19})R^{20}R^{21}$, or hydrogen,

~~R^6 is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen,~~

R^{19} represents C1-C5 alkyl ~~optionanlly~~ optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkynyl ~~optionanlly~~ optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen, and

R^{20} and R^{21} each represent C1-C5 alkyl ~~optionanlly~~ optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen.

22. (Currently amended) The malononitrile compound according to claim 10, wherein R^1 is hydrogen,

R^2 is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

R^3 and R^4 each are C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

R^5 is halogen, C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkoxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkenyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkynyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylthio optionally

substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfinyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, a group represented by $C(OR^{19})R^{20}R^{21}$, or hydrogen,

~~R^6 is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen,~~

R^{19} represents C1-C5 alkyl-~~optionanlly~~ optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkynyl-~~optionanlly~~ optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen, and

R^{20} and R^{21} each represent C1-C5 alkyl-~~optionanlly~~ optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen.

23. (Currently amended) The malononitrile compound according to claim 11, wherein R^1 is hydrogen,

R^2 is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

R^3 and R^4 each are C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

R^5 is halogen, C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkoxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkenyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkynyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylthio optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfinyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, a group represented by $C(OR^{19})R^{20}R^{21}$, or hydrogen,

~~R^6 is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen,~~

R^{19} represents C1-C5 alkyl-~~optionanlly~~ optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkynyl-~~optionanlly~~ optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen, and

R^{20} and R^{21} each represent C1-C5 alkyl-~~optionanlly~~ optionally substituted with one or more halogen,or hydrogen.

24. (Currently amended) The malononitrile compound according to claim 12, wherein R^1 is hydrogen,

R^2 is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

R^3 and R^4 each are C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

R^5 is halogen, C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkoxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkenyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkynyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylthio optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfinyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, a group represented by $C(OR^{19})R^{20}R^{21}$, or hydrogen,

~~R^6 is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen,~~

R^{19} represents C1-C5 alkyl ~~optionanlly~~ optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkynyl ~~optionanlly~~ optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen, and

R^{20} and R^{21} each represent C1-C5 alkyl ~~optionanlly~~ optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen.

25. (Currently amended) The malononitrile compound according to claim 13, wherein R^1 is hydrogen,

R^2 is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

R^3 and R^4 each are C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

R^5 is halogen, C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkoxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkenyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkynyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylthio optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfinyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, a group represented by $C(OR^{19})R^{20}R^{21}$, or hydrogen,

~~R^6 is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen,~~

R^{19} represents C1-C5 alkyl ~~optionanlly~~ optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkynyl ~~optionanlly~~ optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen, and

R^{20} and R^{21} each represent C1-C5 alkyl ~~optionanlly~~ optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen.

26. (Currently amended) The malononitrile compound according to claim 14, wherein R^1 is hydrogen,

R^2 is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

R^3 and R^4 each are C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C2-C5 alkenyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen,

R^5 is halogen, C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 cycloalkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkoxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkenyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C6 alkynyloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylthio optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfinyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C1-C5 alkylsulfonyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, a group represented by $C(OR^{19})R^{20}R^{21}$, or hydrogen,

R^6 is C1-C5 alkyl optionally substituted with one or more halogen,

R^{19} represents C1-C5 alkyl ~~optionanlly~~ optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C3-C5 alkynyl ~~optionanlly~~ optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen, and

R^{20} and R^{21} each represent C1-C5 alkyl ~~optionanlly~~ optionally substituted with one or more halogen, or hydrogen.